

Fearless Acts
Jonathan Cleveland
Acts 2:1-41
August 11, 2019

Reflection & Discussion Questions

The first believers were incredibly brave as they engaged their world

As a group – modern Christians have sometimes allowed ‘outrage’ to replace bravery.

*Where have you seen outrage replace bravery in our current culture?

*Why do think this has happened? Why is outrage an easier choice?

Read and discuss Acts 2:1-4 (NIV) & 36-39

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.² Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

³⁶ “Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.”

³⁷ When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

³⁸ Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

*What is this passage saying to you?

*Where do you see bravery in Peter’s words?

God’s presence permanently rests on every person who believes

The gift of the Holy Spirit make us brave IF we walk with him.

*What is the difference between having the Holy Spirit and walking by the Spirit?

*When is a time you found bravery in the Spirit?

The Holy Spirit will lead you in ways that feel unnatural

Galatians 5:16-17(NIV) ¹⁶ So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want.

Our activities, attitudes, behaviors and ways of thinking can be upstream – intentional, not as natural or downstream – a lot easier, instinctive

*How have believers gotten into the habit of going downstream? How have you?

*What or who can help you cultivate the bravery to go upstream?